

DOCKET: 1968 Reissue

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Charles A. Finn, et al.

Serial No.: 08/988,331

Examiner: J. Woo

Filed: December 11, 1997

Group: 3731

For: UNIVERSAL COUPLER FOR SPINAL FIXATION

FAX RECEIVED

JAN 24 2002

GROUP 3700

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
United States Patent & Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 22, 1999, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

- Sub D1 17. (Once Amended) A spinal rod coupler assembly comprising:  
a coupler member having first, second and third openings, the first opening dimensioned to slidably receive a spinal rod and fully surround a portion thereof and the second opening dimensioned to receive a locking fastener to retain the spinal rod within the coupler member; and  
a fastener receiving member having an opening to receive a bone fastener, the fastener receiving member rotatably and slidably mounted with respect to the coupler member to adjust the position of the fastener, the fastener receiving member being mountable in the third opening of the coupler member.

- Sub D2 34. (Once Amended) A spinal rod coupler assembly comprising: